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Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sisma formula என்பது விவசாயிகளாலும் ஆலை முதலாளிகளாலும் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட ஒரு திட்டம். விவசாயிகளுக்கு முதலில் கரும்பு விலையின் ஒரு பகுதி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்பதும், அதன் பிறகு கரும்பு ஆலையில் கரும்பு அடிக்கப்பட்டு எவ்வளவு ஜீனி உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படுகிறது என்பதையும், அதற்கு என்ன விலை கிடைக்கிறது என்பதையும் நிர்ணயித்தபிறகு விலையின் மற்றொரு பகுதி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் Sisma formula-வில் நிர்ணயிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்த ஒப்பந்தத்தை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்காக கரும்பிலிருந்து எவ்வளவு ஜீனி ஆலைக்குக் கிடைத்தது என்று சர்க்கார் கணக்குப் பார்த்திருக்கிறார்களா ? அதை என்ன விலைக்கு ஆலை முதலாளிகள் விற்றிருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் அரசாங்கத்தார் கணக்குப்பார்த்திருக்கிறார்களா ? இவைகளின் அடிப்படையில்தான் விவசாயிகளுக்கு இறுதியான விலை நிர்ணயிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா என்று கனம் மந்திரியைக் கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—' Yes, Sir. I have already given a very straight answer. I think the Government have verified these accounts. They have got the good officers of the Commercial Taxes Department to verify the price of sugar. If Government had not taken the time to verify, if they could simply accept what the factory gave them then the Department could have as well suggested ' All right. This is the data the price fixed accordingly is alright.' I submit, Sir, that Government did take sometime to examine the data. But, of course, I cannot say that the examination was quite thorough."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I have allowed twenty-five minutes for one question. We shall pass on to the next question."

Proposal to notify pepper as a ' Commercial crop ' South Kanara.

* 416[a] Q.—Sri M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any memorandum, dated 1st August 1952, from the pepper growers of Kasargode taluk, South Kanara district, requesting the Government to apply the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act to pepper and declare Kasargode a notified area, etc.; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) After carefully examining the request contained in the Memorandum together with the remarks of the Director of Agriculture and the Collector of South Kanara therein the Government have decided to drop the proposal to notify pepper as a ' commercial crop ' in the South Kanara district under the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, the producer cannot be deprived of a fair price, as it is being done to-day. In view of the fact that the price of pepper is going down steadily and pepper being a very important commercial crop for export, may I know why the Government decline to notify this as a commercial crop? "

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[a] **Starred question postponed from the list for 26th March 1954.**

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, there was a writ pending in the High Court and pending a decision on that, the Government thought that it was not advisable to extend the application of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act to pepper. I would tell the hon. Member that the Government would take up the question of extending this Act to pepper if really the growers would feel that it is to their interests."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The Hon. Minister was saying that pepper was not notified as a commercial crop since a report has been received from the Director of Agriculture. May I know what the recommendations of the Director of Agriculture were and were they to the effect that pepper should not be notified as a commercial crop? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Whatever be the recommendations of the Director of Agriculture or the Collector, there was a writ pending in the High Court and pending a decision on that, the Government took a decision not to extend this Act to pepper."

SRI O. KORAN :—" May I know, Sir, what is the quantity of pepper produced annually in that area? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Are not the Government aware that there were similar protests when this Act was extended to copra in Malabar and in spite of the protests, a Marketing Committee was appointed and now it is working safely to the interests of the producers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That was a different matter. The vested interests concerned, i.e., those dealing in copra did not choose to go to the Court."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, will the Minister be pleased to adduce proper reasons for the phenomenal rise in the price of pepper in the recent past? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Perhaps, Sir, more people are going in for more pepper. I cannot adduce any further reason."

Land Reforms in State.

* 417[a] *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any communication from the Planning Commission regarding the introduction of comprehensive land reforms in the State;

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[a] Starred questions postponed from the list for 26th March 1954.